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March 19, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. on

3/19/01  
*April N. Williams*  
April N. Williams  
Date of Signature 3/19/01

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MAR 23 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2600

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/443,712 for  
METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR COMMUNICATING SIGNALING  
SYSTEM 7 (SS7) USER PART MESSAGES AMONG SS7  
SIGNALING POINTS (SPs) AND INTERNET PROTOCOL (IP)  
NODES USING SIGNAL TRANSFER POINTS (STPs)  
Our File No. 1322/8

Sir:

Please find enclosed in connection with the subject U.S. patent application the following documents:

1. A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages);
2. Form PTO/SB/08A (1 page), in duplicate;
3. Copies of cited references (7 references); and
4. A return-receipt postcard to be returned to us with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office filing stamp thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKINS & WILSON, P.A.

*Gregory A. Hunt*  
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Registration No. 41,085

GAH/anw  
Enclosures

*dl*



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: Sprague et al.

Group Art Unit: 2742

MAR 23 2001

**Serial No.:** 09/443,712

Examiner: Not Assigned

Technology Center 2600

Filed: November 19, 1999

Docket No.: 1322/8

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR COMMUNICATING SIGNALING SYSTEM 7 (SS7) USER PART MESSAGES AMONG SS7 SIGNALING POINTS (SPs) AND INTERNET PROTOCOL (IP) NODES USING SIGNAL TRANSFER POINTS (STPs)

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, applicants' undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the following references. Copies of the references as well as Form PTO/SB/08A are attached hereto. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

U.S. Patent No. 6,154,467 to Hager et al. discloses a high speed SS7 signaling adaptation device (200) which includes a platform manager (120) having a high speed control interface and operable to configure and monitor the operations of the adaptation device.

U.S. Patent No. 6,151,390 to Volftsun et al. discloses a method and apparatus for protocol conversion using channel associated signaling (CAS).

U.S. Patent No. 6,144,670 to Sponaugle et al. discloses an apparatus for establishing a voice call to a PSTN extension for a networked client computer, and routing voice call off of the network.

U.S. Patent No. 6,144,667 to Doshi et al. discloses a network-based method for initiating and completing a voice telephony call via the Internet comprising the steps of

receiving call completion data at a voice/data network gateway of the public switched telephone network from an Internet application web server.

U.S. Patent No. 6,084,956 to Turner et al. discloses a system for interworking the PSTN Common Channel Signalling System Number 7 (CCS7) and Internet Protocol (IP) based data networks call setup protocols.

U.S. Patent No. 6,084,892 to Benash et al. discloses an equal access IP transport and Internet services are provided using a public switched telephone serving a plurality of defined geographic areas (LATAs).

U.S. Patent No. 6,011,803 to Bicknell et al. discloses a distributed processing system (100) including a protocol server (101) that enables a plurality of clients (103-104) to share the use of one set of Signaling System 7 (SS7) links (99), that centralizes the link-termination circuitry (110) for use by the plurality of clients, and that provides access to upper layers (215-219) of the SS7 protocol stack (200) by distributing the processing of different layers of the stack between the protocol server and the clients.

Early passage of the subject application to issue is earnestly solicited.

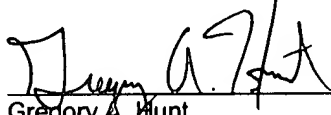
Although it is believed that no fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of payment associated with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKINS & WILSON, P.A.

Date: 3/19/01

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Enclosures